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JAN 29 2000

Virginia Air Board  
c/o Terry Darton  
Air Permit Manager  
13901 Crown Court  
Woodbridge, VA 22193

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Dear Air Board-

Why is the City of Alexandria wasting millions of dollars opposing the upgrades to the stacks at the Potomac River Generating Station? This proposal has the support of the Department of Environment Quality. They would certainly never support any proposal that did not meet the strict guidelines of the government.

I know that I would love to see a concerted effort to improve air quality. With the increased volume of traffic, pollutants, and other poisonous gases over time, we need to work now to reverse the harmful effects to the environment. The "virtual stacks" would allow for no major outward alterations to the existing facilities, but dramatically decrease the harmful pollutants by the use of high velocity expulsion to the atmosphere.

I have lived here for over 35 years, and I want my opinion and voice to be heard loud and clear. I am supporting this proposal. It will increase air quality, provide power to the region, and allow Mirant Power to continue to operate this facility, which provides jobs and tax revenue to the area. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my comments and concerns, and please carefully consider them.

Yours truly,



Albert Smith